them not want to eat. Almost any childhood illness can cause a baby to eat less than usual, like a cold, an ear infection or a virus. Stomach viruses that cause vomiting and/or diarrhea are a real concern in babies with MCADD. The doctor will have a plan in place so that parents of a baby with MCADD will know what to do when their baby gets sick.

Babies with MCADD can be fed like any other babies. Parents just need to make sure that the baby eats every three to four hours, both day and night. Feeding through the night can be adjusted when the baby is a little older. They will also need to learn to test the baby's blood sugar, so they will know when to take the baby to the doctor or the emergency room.

Babies with MCADD can grow and develop just like other babies with a little extra care.

For more information, please contact:
South Carolina Department of Health
and Environmental Control
Division of Women and
Children's Services
Box 101106
Columbia, SC 29211
(803) 898-0767
or
your county health department

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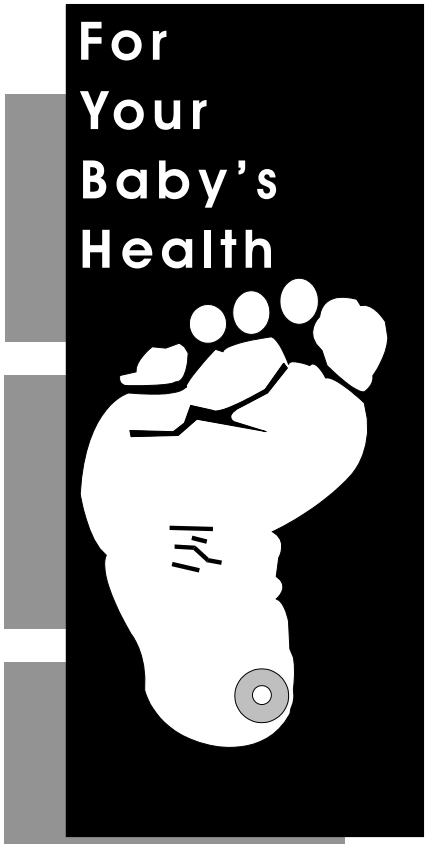
Division of Women and Children's Services

ML-000245 MAC 11/00

NEWBORN SCREENING 2



What You Should Know When a Second Test for MCADD Is Needed

Newborn Screening

A small sample of your baby's blood was collected soon after birth and was sent to the DHEC laboratory for testing. This testing is called Newborn Screening. In SC, newborns are tested for several genetic and chemical disorders. These disorders include Phenylketonuria (called PKU), Congenital Hypothyroidism, Galactosemia, Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (called CAH), Medium Chain Acyl Co-A Dehydrogenase Deficiency (called MCADD), and Hemoglobinopathies. In some cases, a second test is needed to help your doctor decide if your baby has one of these disorders. In many cases, the second test will be normal. However, if your baby does have one of the newborn screening disorders, early treatment will give him or her the best chance to grow up healthy.

Medium Chain Acyl Co-A Dehydrogenase Deficiency

Your baby's first test showed that he or she could possibly have MCADD. Here's a brief description of MCADD and how it is treated.

MCADD is a genetic disorder that is found in around one of every 10,000 babies born each year. When a baby has MCADD, he or she cannot use the energy from fat to keep the body's systems working like they should.

Newborn screening allows the baby's doctor to tell if the baby probably has MCADD before he or she gets sick. This lets the doctor give the parents special instructions on how to keep the baby from getting very sick from MCADD.

Here's a description of how our bodies get the energy they need to keep our systems working. Most of the time our bodies use a sugar called glucose to give energy to the body's systems. Some of the ways our bodies get glucose are:

>> By eating foods that have glucose as a part of their make-up (like breast milk and formula for babies)

>> By changing stored fats and proteins in our bodies into glucose

If we become sick and are not able to eat very much for a while, we turn our fat stores into glucose for energy until we are able to eat again.

Babies with MCADD are not able to turn fat into glucose. So when their bodies run out of glucose, they get sick very fast. They may have seizures, be very hard to wake up, or have problems breathing. Babies with MCADD may get sick when they have an illness that makes